

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame defining a longitudinal axis which extends between a front head end of the frame and a rear handle end of the frame;

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon;

a first handle at the handle end of the frame ~~and extending downwardly away from the head end at an obtuse angle to said longitudinal axis;~~
~~and ;~~

a second handle on the frame near the head end thereof remote from the first handle; and

a hand guard extending upwardly from the head end of the frame toward the second handle to protect an operator's hand while grasping the second handle, said hand guard having a narrow distal end for discouraging an operator from grasping the hand guard instead of the second handle.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The grill scraper of claim 2 1 wherein said hand guard includes means for removably mounting the scraping blade

on the blade head whereby the hand guard performs a dual function of protecting an operator's hand as well as removably mounting the scraping blade.

5. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 4 wherein said hand guard is movably mounted on the frame for movement between a blade locking position and a blade release position.

6. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 5, including means for pivotally mounting the hand guard for pivotal movement between said positions.

7. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 6, including detent means operatively associated with the hand guard for holding the hand guard in either of said blade locking and release positions.

8. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 5 wherein said blade head includes a support plate on which the scraping blade is supported, and the hand guard includes clamping means for clamping the blade to the support plate in the locking position of the hand guard.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 1 wherein said first handle includes an enlarged distal end to prevent an operator's hand from sliding off the first handle.

12. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 1 wherein said second handle is in the form of a rounded knob.

13. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 1 wherein said elongated frame is narrow and generally planar in a vertical plane relative to the surface of the cooking grill when the grill scraper is being used.

14. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 13 wherein said elongated frame is a wire form frame.

15. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 13 wherein said elongated frame is fabricated of cast metal material.

16-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame defining a longitudinal axis which extends between a front head end of the frame and a rear handle end of the frame;

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon;

a first handle at the handle end of the frame;

a second handle on the frame near the head end thereof remote from the first handle; and

a hand guard extending upwardly from the head end of the frame toward the second handle to protect an operator's hand while grasping the second handle, said hand guard being generally triangularly shaped between a wide end adjacent the blade head and said narrow distal end for discouraging an operator from grasping the hand guard instead of the second handle.

24-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 23 wherein said hand guard includes means for removably mounting the scraping blade on the blade head whereby the hand guard performs a dual function of protecting an operator's hand as well as removably mounting the scraping blade.

27. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 26 wherein said hand guard is movably mounted on the frame for movement between a blade locking position and a blade release position.

28. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 27, including detent means operatively associated with the hand guard for holding the hand guard in either of said blade locking and release positions.

29. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 27 wherein said blade head includes a support plate on which the scraping blade is supported, and the hand guard includes clamping means for clamping the blade to the support plate in the locking position of the hand guard.

30. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 23 wherein said blade head includes a splash guard at a rear edge thereof to direct material scraped from the surface of the grill away from an operator's hand.

31. (Original) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame defining a longitudinal axis which extends between a front head end of the frame and a rear handle end of the frame, the elongated frame including a forward generally straight portion which extends

rearwardly from the head end of the frame, a rearward generally straight portion which extends forwardly from the handle end of the frame, and an intermediate offset portion between the forward and rearward portions and which elevates the rearward portion from the forward portion to protect an operator's hand while grasping the first handle;

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon;

a first handle at the handle end of the frame; and

a second handle on the frame near the head end thereof remote from the first handle.

32. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 31 wherein said elongated frame is narrow and generally planar in a vertical plane relative to the surface of the cooking grill when the grill scraper is being used.

33. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 32 wherein said elongated frame is a wire form frame.

34. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 32 wherein said elongated frame is fabricated of cast metal material.

35. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 32, including gusset means extending between the blade head and the planar frame for rigidifying the blade head relative to the frame.

36. (Currently Amended) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame having a front head end;

a handle remote from the front head end of the frame; and

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon, and the blade head including a support plate on which the scraping blade is mounted, a clamping plate for positioning on top of the scraping blade, and clamping means for biasing the clamping plate toward the support plate to clamp the scraping blade therebetween, said support plate including a shoulder against which a rear edge of the scraping blade can abut, and lost motion means between said clamping means and the scraping blade whereby the blade can bias against and along said shoulder during a scraping operation should the clamping means become loosened.

37-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) The grill scraper of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said shoulder extends at an angle to a front scraping edge of the scraping blade.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Original) The grill scraper of claim 36 wherein said clamping plate includes a splash guard at a rear edge thereof to direct material scraped from the surface of the grill away from an operator's hand.

42. (New) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame defining a longitudinal axis which extends between a front head end of the frame and a rear handle end of the frame;

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon;

a first handle at the handle end of the frame and extending downwardly away from the head end at an obtuse angle to said longitudinal axis;

a second handle on the frame near the head end thereof remote from the first handle; and

said elongated frame including a forward generally straight portion which extends rearwardly from the head end of the frame, a rearward gener-

ally straight portion which extends forwardly from the handle end of the frame, and an intermediate offset portion between the forward and rearward portions and which elevates the rearward portion from the forward portion to protect an operator's hand while grasping the first handle.

43. (New) A grill scraper for scraping the surface of a cooking grill or the like, comprising:

an elongated frame defining a longitudinal axis which extends between a front head end of the frame and a rear handle end of the frame;

a blade head at the head end of the frame for mounting a scraping blade thereon;

a first handle at the handle end of the frame and extending downwardly away from the head end at an obtuse angle to said longitudinal axis;

a second handle on the frame near the head end thereof remote from the first handle; and

said blade head including a support plate on which the scraping blade is mounted, a clamping plate for positioning on top of the scraping blade, and clamping means for biasing the clamping plate toward the support plate to clamp the scraping blade therebetween, said support plate including a shoulder against which a rear edge of the scraping blade can abut, and lost motion means between said clamping means and the scraping blade whereby

the blade can bias against and along said shoulder during a scraping operation should the clamping means become loosened.

44. (New) The grill scraper of claim 19 wherein said shoulder extends at an angle to a front scraping edge of the scraping blade.